



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2022

9,350: The Indo-Pacific: Security Issues and Challenges

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (60%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (10%)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[9,350.1.00 The Indo-Pacific: Security Issues and Challenges](#) -- Englisch -- [Hänggi Heinrich Stephan](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course. Familiarity with the basics of International Relations (IR) theory combined with a solid interest in security studies and the Indo-Pacific region will be an advantage.

Learning objectives

By the end of the course students will have acquired a comprehensive and structured understanding of key security issues and challenges in the Indo-Pacific region. In particular, students will have demonstrated an ability to critically reflect on the concept of the Indo-Pacific, to independently conduct a comprehensive analysis of a specific security issue or challenge related to the Indo-Pacific and to critically evaluate the analysis of additional security issues and challenges.

Course content

Drawing on International Relations (IR) theory, this course provides an introduction to the concept of the Indo-Pacific and the region's security environment.

Still a rather vague and contested concept, the idea of the Indo-Pacific as a geopolitical entity has gained traction in recent years. This vast region has become the central theatre in the strategic competition between the United States and China to shape the course of the 21st century as well as the attempts of regional great powers such as Japan and India to find an answer to the economic, political and military rise of China. The region is also home to security flashpoints that could have global ramifications, including the Korean Peninsula, the Taiwan Strait, and the South China Sea. Furthermore, the Indo-Pacific countries are increasingly confronted with new security challenges emerging from a host of transnational threats such as climate change and health pandemics, alongside instances of domestic political turbulence with cross-border effects. At the same time, economic interdependence among regional states remains high, and there are multiple efforts to build regional institutions aimed at mitigating conflicts and increasing the benefits of inter-state cooperation.

Students will gain a basic familiarity with the concept of the Indo-Pacific and the relevant security issues and challenges, and acquire an ability to critically approach the topic from different perspectives.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design



The course meets every two weeks for 4 hours on the campus. It consists of two main parts comprising three sessions each:

- The first part before the semester break will focus on the conceptual underpinnings of Indo-Pacific security and provide background knowledge on the topics proposed for the term papers. It is given in the form of lectures supplemented by short break-out group and plenary discussions.
- The structured discussion of the topics dealt with in the research papers is at the core of the second part of the course. Each research paper is presented in class, evaluated by assigned discussants and further discussed in the plenary. This part will conclude with a role play in the form of an Oxford Debate.

The course will include a number of (mostly online) guest lectures by external experts from the Indo-Pacific region sharing their perspectives on the course topic.

Active participation of the students is required throughout the course, including (but not limited to) the presentation and discussion in class of the term papers.

Course literature

Required reading for all course participants and a selection of introductory reading related to the topics proposed for term papers will be available online on StudyNet at the beginning of the semester.

Although there is no compulsory textbook for this course, students may wish to use the following book for preparatory reading:

- Peou, Sorpong (2022), *Peace and Security in Indo-Pacific Asia. IR Perspectives in Context*, London: Routledge (in particular the Introduction and chapters 1, 2, 5, 6 10).

Additional course information

The instructor will inform about the exact specifics of the course at the first session and regularly during the course of the semester as required. For additional information, please contact Heiner Hänggi (email:heiner.haenggi@unisg.ch).

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (in groups - all given the same grades) (60%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Term paper to be submitted by 10.11.2022.

Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Written work must be written without outside help according to the known citation standards, and a declaration of authorship must be attached, which is available as a template on the StudentWeb.

Documentation (quotations, bibliography, etc.) must be carried out universally and consistently according to the requirements of the chosen/specified citation standard such as e.g. APA or MLA.

The legal standard is recommended for legal work (cf. by way of example: FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R., SCHINDLER B., *Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende* (the latest edition in each case), or according to the recommendations of the



Law School).

The reference sources of information (paraphrases, quotations, etc.) that has been taken over literally or in the sense of the original text must be integrated into the text in accordance with the requirements of the citation standard used. Informative and bibliographical notes must be included as footnotes (recommendations and standards e.g. in METZGER, C., Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien (latest edition)).

For all written work at the University of St.Gallen, the indication of page numbers is mandatory, regardless of the standard chosen. Where page numbers are missing in sources, the precise designation must be made differently: chapter or section title, section number, article, etc.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Presentation of the term paper in class.

Examination-aid rule

Presentations

In presentations, aids for visual presentation can be used. These aids can be specified or restricted by the lecturers.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

3. Examination sub part (3/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (10%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Critical review of another term paper.

Examination-aid rule

Presentations

In presentations, aids for visual presentation can be used. These aids can be specified or restricted by the lecturers.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English



Examination content

Learning objectives are assessed through:

- A term paper (5,000-6,000 words, excl. bibliography and appendices) written by groups of students on one of the topics proposed by the instructor. The topics of the papers are assigned to the groups of students at the first session. Allowed group sizes are determined at the first session. Term papers are due by November 10th, 2022.
- The presentation of the term paper in class and active participation in the plenary discussion by the assigned groups at one of the sessions in the second half of the semester. Presentations must be based on a PowerPoint deck of slides.
- The presentation in the role of discussants of a critical evaluation of a paper prepared by another group. The papers to be evaluated are assigned to discussant groups by November 11th, 2022.

The final grade will be determined by the term paper (60%), the presentation of the term paper (30%) and the presentation in the role of discussants (10%).

Examination relevant literature

1. Presentation slides of all lectures given in sessions 1-3 (see StudyNet); for all participants.
2. Required readings of sessions 1-3 (see StudyNet); for all participants.
3. Introductory reading for each topic proposed for term papers (see StudyNet); only for the authors of the relevant papers.

All material will be made available on StudyNet during the course before the end of the term.

Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 34 (Thursday, 25 August 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 7 November 2022).